

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 10 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Karageozian (U.S. Patent No. 5,579,201). Claims 2-9 and 11-18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 19 was indicated as being allowable over the prior art of record. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and/or remarks provided herein.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

2. Claims 1, 10 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Karageozian. In particular, the Examiner asserts that Karageozian discloses Applicant's claimed system, wherein the claimed "low voltage" reads on the AC line signal of Karageozian. Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's assertions because Applicant has clearly distinguished his "low voltage" from the AC line voltage as evident from the exemplary voltage of the voltage tap discussed at various locations of Applicant's specification. Although limitations from Applicant's specification should not be read into the claims, *see Storage Technology Corp. v. Cisco Sys., Inc.*, 329 F.3d 823, 831 (Fed. Cir. 2003), it is axiomatic that claims are not to be interpreted in a vacuum, but rather must be read in light of the specification, *see Prima Tek II, L.L.C. v. Polypap, S.A.R.L.*, 318 F.3d 1143, 1148 (Fed. Cir. 2003). Reading Applicant's term "low voltage" in light of the present specification, such term clearly cannot equate to the AC line voltage utilized by Karageozian.

Nevertheless, in order to move prosecution forward in this case, Applicant has herein amended claims 1, 10 and 20 to more clearly recite Applicant's "low voltage" limitation. In particular, Applicant has specified the trigger for switching on and off the secondary devices as being an operating voltage of the primary device (e.g., computer) that is less than the voltage of the external energy source (e.g., AC line voltage) supplying energy to the primary device and the switched outlet(s). Karageozian provides no comparable teaching or suggestion. Rather, Karageozian's trigger is simply the presence or absence of an AC line voltage supplied by the primary device (e.g., computer) or the reception of an appropriate wireless signal from the

primary device. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 1, 10 and 20 are not anticipated by Karageozian and respectfully requests that claims 1, 10 and 20 be passed to allowance.

Allowed Claims

3. Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 2-9 and 11-19. However, for the reasons set forth above, Applicant believes that claims 1, 10 and 20 are also allowable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance allowing all the pending claims of the present application.

Amendments to the Specification

4. Applicant has herein amended paragraphs 0013 and 0015 of the specification to delete extraneous and unnecessary text. No new matter has been added by such amendments.

Other Amendments to the Claims

5. Applicant has herein amended several of the claims to correct minor informalities therein, to broaden the claims in certain respects, and to make the text of dependent claims consistent with the amendments made to their respective base claims. None of these amendments were intended to narrow the claims in any manner or were made for any purpose related to patentability. Applicant submits that all such claim amendments are fully supported by Applicant's originally filed specification.

New Claims

6. Applicant has herein added new dependent claims 21-25 directed to additional features of the present invention. Applicant submits that such claims are fully supported by Applicant's originally filed specification and are patentably distinct from the prior art of record. For example, none of the cited prior art discloses a system that includes a power strip having both switched and unswitched outlets as recited in claims 21 and 24. Furthermore, none of the cited prior art discloses such a system, wherein the primary device (e.g., computer) is plugged into the unswitched outlet of the power strip as recited in claim 22. Accordingly, Applicant

requests that the Examiner pass new claims 21-25 to allowance. Applicant encloses herewith the applicable, additional filing fee for examination of newly presented claims 21-25.

7. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone, facsimile or email if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the instant application. Please charge any necessary fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees (if applicable and not paid by separate check), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1111.

Respectfully submitted,

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